

Appl. No. 10/616,852
Paper dated December 5, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated September 14, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended): An acceptor for money items or the like comprising:
sensing means for sensing parameters of an item submitted to the acceptor,
processing means for determining [[the]] acceptability of [[an]] the item submitted to the
acceptor in the basis of an acceptance criteria using the parameters thereof sensed by the sensing
means, and
communication means, associated with the processing means, and adapted to send and
receive alarm signals from the acceptor and from other acceptors,
wherein the processing means is configured to respond to a condition indicative of a
fraud attempt by sending an alarm signal using said communication means and
wherinc the processing means is configured to respond to [[such]] an alarm signal,
received by said communication means, to modify [[its]] the acceptance criteria.

Claim 2. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 1, wherein said
condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 3. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 2, wherein said
condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a
marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 4. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 1, wherein said
modification comprises reducing an acceptance range for at least one of the sensed parameters a
sensed money item parameter.

Claim 5. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 4, wherein said
condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 6. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 5, wherein said
condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a
marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 7. (original): An acceptor according to claim 1, wherein the communication
means comprises data network communication means.

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Claim 8. (currently amended): An acceptor for money items or the like comprising:
sensing means for sensing parameters of an item submitted to the acceptor,
processing means for determining [[the]] acceptability of [[an]] the item submitted to the
acceptor in the basis of an acceptance criteria using the parameters thereof sensed by the sensing
means, and

data network communication means associated with the processing means, and adapted to
send and receive alarm signals from the acceptor and from other acceptors,

wherein the processing means is configured to respond to a condition indicative of a
fraud attempt by sending an alarm signal using said communication means and

wherin the processing means is configured to respond to [[such]] an alarm signal,
received by said communication means, to modify [[its]] the acceptance criteria.

Claim 9. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 8, wherein said
condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter-value.

Claim 10. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 9, wherein said
condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a
marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 11. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 8, wherein said
modification comprises reducing an acceptance range for at least one of the sensed parameters a
sensed money item parameter.

Claim 12. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 11, wherein said
condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter-value.

Claim 13. (currently amended): An acceptor according to claim 12, wherein said
condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a
marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 14. (currently amended): A coin- or banknote-operated machine including an
acceptor for money items or the like, the acceptor comprising:

sensing means for sensing parameters of an item submitted to the acceptor,
processing means for determining [[the]] acceptability of [[an]] the item submitted to the
acceptor in the basis of an acceptance criteria using the parameters thereof sensed by the sensing
means, and

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communication means associated with the processing means, and adapted to send and receive alarm signals from the acceptor and from other acceptors,

wherein the processing means is configured to respond to a condition indicative of a fraud attempt by sending an alarm signal using said communication means and

wherein the processing means is configured to respond to [[such]] an alarm signal, received by said communication means, to modify [[its]] the acceptance criteria.

Claim 15. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 14, wherein said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 16. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 15, wherein said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 17. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 14, wherein said modification comprises reducing an acceptance range for at least one of the sensed parameters a sensed money item parameter.

Claim 18. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 17, wherein said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 19. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 18, wherein said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 20. (original): A machine according to claim 14, wherein the communication means comprises data network communication means.

Claim 21. (currently amended): A coin- or banknote-operated machine including an acceptor for money items or the like, the acceptor comprising:

sensing means for sensing parameters of an item submitted to the acceptor,

processing means for determining [[the]] acceptability of [[an]] the item submitted to the acceptor in the basis of an acceptance criteria using the parameters thereof sensed by the sensing means, and

data network communication means associated with the processing means, and adapted to send and receive alarm signals from the acceptor and from other acceptors,

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wherein the processing means is configured to respond to a condition indicative of a fraud attempt by sending an alarm signal using said communication means and

wherein the processing means is configured to respond to [[such]] an alarm signal, received by said communication means, to modify [[its]] the acceptance criteria.

Claim 22. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 21, wherein said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 23. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 22, wherein said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 24. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 21, wherein said modification comprises reducing an acceptance range for at least one of the sensed parameters a sensed money item parameter.

Claim 25. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 24, wherein said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 26. (currently amended): A machine according to claim 25, wherein said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameter parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 27. (currently amended): A system comprising a plurality of coin- or banknote-operated machines, each including an acceptor and interconnected in a data network, said acceptors each comprising:

sensing means for sensing parameters of an item submitted to the acceptor, processing means for determining [[the]] acceptability of [[an]] the item submitted to the acceptor in the basis of an acceptance criteria using the parameters thereof sensed by the sensing means, and

data network communication means for communication via said data network associated with the processing means, and adapted to send and receive alarm signals from the acceptor and from other acceptors,

wherein said processing means is configured to respond to a condition indicative of a fraud attempt by sending an alarm signal using said communication means and

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whcrein the processing means is configured to respond to [[such]] an alarm signal, received by said communication means, to modify [[its]] the acceptance criteria.

Claim 28. (currently amended): A system according to claim 27, whcrein said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 29. (currently amended): A system according to claim 28, whcrein said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.

Claim 30. (currently amended): A system according to claim 27, whcrein said modification comprises reducing an acceptance range for at least one of the sensed parameters a sensed money item parameter.

Claim 31. (currently amended): A system according to claim 30, whrcin said condition relates to [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameter value.

Claim 32. (currently amended): A system according to claim 31, whrcin said condition comprises [[a]] at least one of the sensed parameters parameters falling within a marginal region of an acceptance range therefor.